

DRAFT

Minutes of the meeting of the
Elmbridge LOCAL COMMITTEE
 held at 4.00 pm on 24 June 2013
 at Council Chamber, Elmbridge Civic Centre, Elmbridge Borough Council,
 Esher KT10 9SD.

Surrey County Council Members

- * Mrs Margaret Hicks (Chairman)
- * Mr Mike Bennison (Vice-Chairman)
- Mr Peter Hickman
- * Rachael I. Lake
- * Mrs Mary Lewis
- * Mr Christian Mahne
- * Mr Ernest Mallett MBE
- * Mr Tony Samuels
- * Mr Stuart Selleck

Borough / District Members:

- * Borough Councillor David J Archer
- * Borough Councillor Nigel Cooper
- * Borough Councillor Barry Fairbank
- Borough Councillor Jan Fuller
- Borough Councillor Peter Harman
- * Borough Councillor Stuart Hawkins
- * Borough Councillor Neil J Luxton
- * Borough Councillor Dorothy Mitchell
- * Borough Councillor John O'Reilly

1/13 APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN AND VICE CHAIRMAN [Item 1]

The Local Committee noted that the Council had appointed Margaret Hicks as the Chairman and Michael Bennison as the Vice Chairman of the Elmbridge Local Committee.

2/13 APPOINTMENTS OF ELMBRIDGE BOROUGH COUNCIL CO-OPTED MEMBERS [Item 2]

The Local Committee noted that Elmbridge Borough Council had nominated the following nine Borough Councillors to serve on the Elmbridge Local Committee for the municipal year 2013/14: Councillors D J Archer, N C Cooper, B Fairbank, Mrs J Fuller, P M Harman, S Hawkins, N Luxton, Mrs D M Mitchell and J O'Reilly.

Councillor O'Reilly asked for clarification on the wider responsibilities that he understood the Local Committee was going to be given in the future. He explained he understood that was one of the reasons given for no substitutes being allowed for the current municipal year. The Chairman clarified that the

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Local Committee is going to be given responsibilities for aspects of Education, on which the local Committee Members were also going to receive training.

3/13 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE [Item 3]

Apologies for absence had been received from Peter Hickman, Councillor Peter Harman and Councillor Mrs Jan Fuller.

4/13 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS [Item 4]

The Chairman made announcements regarding the successful bid to the Department for Transport for funding for the Walton Cycling Safety Schemes, the completion of the pedestrian crossing outside Cleves School, Weybridge and the start of Operation Horizon road repairs.

5/13 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING [Item 5]

The minutes of the previous meeting held on 25th February 2013 were agreed as a correct record.

6/13 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST [Item 6]

No declarations of disclosable pecuniary interests in respect of any item to be considered at the meeting were received.

7/13 CHAIRMAN'S CORRESPONDENCE [Item 7]

The letter and responses are attached in Annexe 1 to these minutes. The Local Committee noted the letter sent to and the responses received from Mr John Furey, SCC Cabinet Member for Transport and Environment, as a result of a request by the Local Committee at its meeting on 25th February 2013 asking for the SCC Speed limit policy to be reconsidered.

Members expressed frustration with the current policy as the lack of 20 mph speed limits particularly around schools was a major concern among residents and such zones had been observed in other areas of the country.

8/13 PETITIONS [Item 8]

Petition1

A petition containing 104 signatures was received from Mr Mike Wheeler, Surrey resident, requesting a formal review of the lack of parking available in Douglas Rd., Esher stating:

'We the undersigned, residents of Douglas Rd., Esher, Arran Way Esher and regular road users of Douglas Rd., present this petition to Elmbridge Borough Council to request a review of the lack of parking spaces available.

This is raised following the receipt of a letter from Surrey Police in conjunction with the local Safer Neighbourhood Team dated 19/3/13, threatening prosecution for taking vehicles over the pavement to park.

Since the last review of this issue, many residents now have more than one vehicle and visitor parking has increased significantly.

Due to the large volume of heavy goods vehicles using Douglas Road to access Esher Mills industrial estate in Mill Road, and the requirement to enable emergency vehicles easy access down the road, it is not safe to park on the road opposite the existing parking bays.

It was suggested, some years ago, that additional parking bays be created by deepening the bays and parking perpendicularly to the road as opposed to parallel parking that currently exists.'

In support Mr Wheeler spoke and said he believed there was a curfew on the size of the lorries which were allowed to use the road at certain times of the day, but these did not appear to be being adhered to, that parking spaces couldn't be created on one side of the road due to a water main and that a solution to create parking bays at right angles had been suggested many years ago, but had never been implemented.

Borough Councillor David Archer and County Councillor Stuart Selleck both spoke in support of the petition, saying the industrial estate and existing schools already made the situation dangerous and there will be an extra 300 car movements per day when the new school is built. Stuart Selleck said SCC Highways, Elmbridge Housing Trust and the school (Cranmere) need to engage to find a solution.

Nick Healey, the Area Highways Team Manager (NE), said he had taken on board all the comments, but the school planning application and this petition need to be handled separately. He will provide a response at the next meeting of the Local Committee.

Petition 2

A petition containing 109 signatures was received from Councillor Peter Harman requesting a reduction in speed limit from 50 mph to 40 mph in Byfleet Rd., Weybridge.

'We the undersigned petition Surrey County Council to reduce the present 50 mph speed limit to 40 mph. Reduce the 50mph speed limit to a safer 40mph. We consider this to be a safe and realistic limit. Petition raised following fatal and non fatal accidents on this road over the past year. The road is mixed residential and commercial with many blind turnings. A recently built care home, pet cemetery and Vet Surgery plus approximately 800 HGV movements a day contribute to valid reasons for a sensible speed limit. Nearby Seven Hills Road and Burwood Road are restricted to 40mph.'

Surrey County Councillor, Christian Mahne, spoke to support this petition, explaining that the junction of Camp End Road with Byfleet Road is very dangerous due to the speed of the traffic.

Nick Healey, the Area Highways Team Manager (NE), will provide a response at the next meeting of the Local Committee.

9/13 PETITION RESPONSE [Item 8a]

Nick Healey, the Area Highways Team Manager (NE), presented the response to the petition brought to the Elmbridge Local Committee meeting held on 25th February 2013. The County Councillor, Ernest Mallett has agreed to allocate £45,000 from the 2013-14 Divisional Allocation to construct

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a new drainage system in St Peter's Rd. A feasibility and detailed design, ready for construction later in this financial year have been commissioned. Ernest Mallet expressed concerns that this project had used up most of the West Molesey Divisional allocation, but Nick Healey explained a contribution from the Central team was requested, but the project was not considered to be a high enough priority.

10/13 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME [Item 9]

Five written public questions were received prior to the meeting. The responses are attached in Annexe 2 to these minutes.

The responses provided to questions 1 and 2 were almost identical.

Question 1 from Gerald Gilbert.

Gerald Gilbert was not happy with the response as he said it did not answer his question.

Nick Healey replied that Surrey County Council recognised there are concerns and a number of suggestions for changes had been received through the process of the bridge planning and building. The bridge design cannot be changed at this stage. In September 2013 a report on the proposed Walton to Halliford Corridor transport study, to address transport management issues, will be brought to the Elmbridge and Spelthorne Local Committees. Once the new Walton Bridge is open concerns will change, some will improve and some will remain. As part of this study public consultation will take place too and a report will be brought back to both Committees in September 2014.

There was no further discussion about questions 2, 3 & 4.

Question 5 from Mark Sugden.

Mark Sugden responded that he was aware of two gullies which had been reported in December 2012 which were still blocked and asked why the gully cleaning programme was only a six month time frame not ongoing throughout the year. In addition, the gully report which came to the Elmbridge Local Committee meeting in November 2012 referred to a more sophisticated method of analysing gullies, and Mr Sugden asked whether this analysis had taken place yet.

The Chairman explained that the Local Committee were furious with the state of the gullies, it is clear that routine checking and cleaning is not happening and that she had proposed that a meeting be set up for the herself and the Vice Chairman to meet with the contractors.

Nick Healey apologised to Mark Sugden for the gullies which had not been dealt with and asked him to give the details to the Committee Clerk, who would forward them to him. He explained that Highways is aiming to adopt a new method of prioritisation as some gullies require a yearly clean and others a three yearly clean depending on silt levels. As regards the time frame, Nick Healey clarified that the Gully Cleansing is a countywide programme and it only covers Elmbridge for 6 months of the year.

11/13 QUESTION RESPONSE [Item 9a]

Caroline Stevenson was pleased with the detailed response provided by the Highways service, attached as Annexe 3 to these minutes. The change to the white lining would improve the situation and the regular cutting back will improve the sight lines and would make the rural footway usable again. She requested that the cutting back of the overgrowth on the footway be considered as urgent and Nick Healey said he would look into this. The County Councillor, Michael Bennison, expressed support for Caroline Stevenson and said he would work with Nick Healey on this issue and Caroline Stevenson would be kept informed.

12/13 MEMBER QUESTION TIME [Item 10]

One written member question was received prior to the meeting. The response is attached in Annexe 4 to these minutes.

The County Councillor Stuart Selleck responded by saying the answer doesn't give details of what the consultees said as part of the consultation that took place three years ago. He believes that Elmbridge Borough Council and Surrey County Council did not make the notice of the change clear and asked whether the Local Committee would consider staggering the increase.

Rikki Hill, the Parking Project Team Leader, explained the increase had been part of the 2011/12 Parking Review. It had been advertised and no objections received, the Local Committee had agreed the changes and the Traffic Order had been made. It was decided to look at the issue as part of Item 15 on the agenda.

13/13 HIGHWAYS UPDATE - 2013/14 PROGRAMME (FOR DECISION) [Item 11]

Nick Healey, the Area Highways Team Manager (NE), introduced the report. He explained that the overspend on the revenue budget had been absorbed into the budget. This is unprecedented so the Local Committee must ensure it isn't repeated. The underspend on the capital budget had been carried forward, but this had in fact been caused by a miscoding, which wasn't identified until too late.

Nick Healey explained that Westcar Lane was a very good example of how the Local Committee was working with the Central team to achieve the best results. The Hersham Divisional Member had contributed £26,500 from her Divisional allocation for local structural repair and the road was also included in the Operation Horizon surface treatment scheme.

The Local Committee resolved to:

(i) authorise the Area Team Manager in consultation with the Chairman, Vice Chairman, and relevant Divisional Member(s) to undertake all necessary procedures to deliver the agreed programmes.

Reason for decision: to facilitate the delivery of the 2013-14 Highways programmes funded by the Local Committee, while ensuring the Chairman, Vice Chairman and relevant Divisional Members are fully and appropriately involved in any detailed considerations.

14/13 PROPOSAL FOR TOUCAN CROSSING ON BARNES WALLIS DRIVE JUNCTION WITH OYSTER LANE, BYFLEET (FOR DECISION) [Item 12]

Paul Fishwick, the Project Manager, introduced his report. The proposed Toucan Crossing actually crosses two boroughs, Elmbridge and Woking and therefore needs to be agreed by both Local Committees. It is 100% funded by the Local Sustainable Transport Fund (LSTF). The crossing will improve connectivity between the residential area (Byfleets and Woking) and the retail area (Brooklands and Weybridge).

The County Councillor, Christian Mahne, commented that he would like to see the cycling routes extended from Woking into Elmbridge, but Paul Fishwick explained the LSTF does not extend into Elmbridge.

The Local Committee resolved to:

- (i) Agree to the construction of the proposed toucan crossing as indicated on the draft plan attached as Annex A.
- (ii) Agree that the necessary Notice under Section 23 of The Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, advertising the Council's intent to construct the crossing be published.
- (iii) Agree that if objections are received the Project Manager is authorised to try and resolve them;
- (iv) Agree that if any objections cannot be resolved, the Area Highways Manager (North East), Area Highways Manager (North West) and the Project Manager, in consultation with the Chairmen of Elmbridge and Woking Local Committees and the divisional Members for Weybridge and The Byfleets, decide whether or not they should be acceded to and therefore whether the order should be made, with or without modifications.

Reason for decision: The toucan crossing will provide local residents with an alternative (walking and cycling) to the car and will assist in reducing local car journeys, allowing for improved connectivity from where people live (Byfleet) to where people work and shop (Brooklands, Weybridge).

15/13 OPERATION HORIZON UPDATE (FOR DECISION) [Item 13]

Mark Borland, Group Manager (Highways), introduced the report. Operation Horizon will see £9 million being invested in the borough of Elmbridge replacing 11% of the roads – 45km. Mark thanked the County Councillors for their help in identifying the roads. In Elmbridge the Local Committee had focussed on the residential roads and roads in the town centres.

Jane Young, Carriageway Team Leader, explained she was looking at all the Operation Horizon schemes. This is not a quick fix programme, it is a design and build 5 year programme looking at entire roads. A Surface Protection Programme is running alongside Operation Horizon reducing the development of defects. The repairs will carry a 10 year warranty.

Lloyd Allen from May Gurney, the SCC Highways Contractor explained they were using a dedicated supply chain to enable them to give the 10 year warranty. The roads will actually surpass the 10 year warranty. The design teams are focussing on longevity and ensuring the design is right for the road.

Members asked how much flexibility there was for changes to the roads currently in the programme for year 2. Mark Borland said there is flexibility, but the programme will be delivered as it stands unless the Local Committee requests changes to be made. Some Borough Councillors felt they had not been adequately consulted and would like more details on why one road has been chosen above another, but not all County Councillors agreed. Margaret Hicks, the Chairman suggested the roads scheduled for years 2 and 3 of the programme are discussed and debated by the Local Committee.

Mark Borland clarified that approximately 80% of the roads had been selected based on technical examination and the remaining 20% based on the views expressed from public/Councillor consultations.

The Local Committee resolved to:

- (i) Agree they note the decision made by Cabinet on the 26th March 2013 to allocate capital monies to Operation Horizon as detailed in the Medium Term Financial Plan.
- (ii) formally approve the Operation Horizon programme for Elmbridge and that the 45km of road, across the defined scheme list detailed in Annex One, is resurfaced over the investment period.
- (iii) Agree that Surrey Highways produce an annual report in March 2014 confirming to the Local Committee programme progress and success to date.

Reason for decision: 17% of the county's roads are classified as "poor", requiring structural repair. This will enable 45km of roads (11% of the local network) in Elmbridge to be resurfaced.

16/13 WALTON CYCLING SAFETY SCHEMES (FOR DECISION) [Item 14]

Duncan Knox, the SCC Road Safety Team Manager, presented the report. He explained how the SCC had been awarded £984,000 from the Department of Transport and that the County Council was providing £200,000 of match funding along with the £225,000 of developer contributions to complete the scheme. The consultation period will run from 9th July to 10th August 2013. The public consultation taking place includes a 2 day exhibition at Walton Library and a leaflet drop of all businesses and residences on the route and close by.

Rachael Lake expressed her support for the scheme, having attended an informative meeting regarding the scheme with Duncan Knox that morning.

The Local Committee resolved to:

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- (i) Agree that the consultation plan presented within this report is approved.
- (ii) Agree that approval is given to advertise any statutory notices, in accordance with the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, and subject to no objections being upheld, the necessary Orders be made.
- (iii) Agree that approval is given to the delegation of authority to officers, in consultation with the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Local Committee, along with the relevant Divisional Member/s to consider, resolve and where necessary over rule any objections received in connection with the proposal.

Reason for decision: to ensure all necessary consultation with key stakeholders takes place and procedures, in accordance with the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, are followed.

17/13 PARKING UPDATE (FOR DECISION) [Item 15]

Rikki Hill, the Parking Project Team Leader, presented the report. Rikki Hill explained that as the outcomes of the 2011/12 Parking Review were not implemented until March/April 2013, after the 2012/13 Parking Review was agreed in February 2013, some unforeseen consequences have occurred. In order to deal with these, some additional amendments are required.

Rikki Hill also updated the Local Committee that the county council has entered into a new contract to enable motorists to pay parking charges using mobile phones. This contract also offers a similar system for residents' permits, visitors' permits, waivers and suspensions and it is proposed to amend the TRO to allow this to happen.

The report also updated Members on the confirmation of the additional and amended proposals from the meeting held on February 25th 2013.

Rikki Hill said the aim is to implement these proposals and those agreed at the meeting held on February 25th 2013, following advertisement and consultation, by Christmas 2013.

Councillor Dorothy Mitchell queried the proposal in 2.4 regarding Freeland's Road. She proposed that recommendation (i) was amended to extend the single yellow line in Four Wents. Rachael Lake seconded this proposal.

The plan showing the tabled amended proposal for French Gardens and Hogshill Lane in recommendation (i) is attached as Annexe 5 to these minutes.

As agreed at Item 10 Members started to discuss the increase in the cost of business parking permits as raised in the Member's question from Stuart Selleck.

It was agreed to adjourn the meeting while officers and Members discussed the issue in private. The meeting was adjourned at 17:55.

The meeting restarted at 18:07.

In relation to the business parking permits Rikki Hill will bring a report to the meeting to be held on September 2nd 2013 to look at possible options.

The Local Committee resolved to:

- (i) Agree the county council's intention to make the amendments to the traffic regulations orders (TROs) as described in this report is formally advertised, and subject to statutory consultation; **along with an additional proposal for French Gardens and Hogshill Lane as tabled at the meeting and to extend the single yellow line on the eastern kerbline of Four Wents to in line with the northern boundary of house no. 1 Four Wents.**
- (ii) Agree that any unresolved objections to the advertised proposals are dealt with according to the council's constitution (i.e. considered by the parking strategy & implementation team manager, in consultation with the chairman/vice chairman of this committee and the relevant county councillor);
- (iii) Agree that the amendments are introduced, with or without modifications, following consideration of responses to the advert.
- (iv) Note the new or revised proposals that were mentioned at this committee's meeting on 25 February 2013 and subsequently agreed for advertisement and statutory consultation following discussions between the parking team manager, the chairman and vice chairman of this committee and the relevant county councillor

Reason for recommendation: to improve road safety, traffic flow, access to property, sightlines at junctions, parking amenity and administrative efficiency.

18/13 LOCAL PREVENTION FRAMEWORK - AWARD OF NEIGHBOURHOOD PREVENTION GRANT (FOR DECISION) [Item 16]

The report was introduced by Jeremy Crouch, SCC Contract Performance Officer for Services for Young People. The current LPF contract runs out on 31st August 2013 and the report set out the recommissioning process followed this year. The process had gone well, had included good input from young people and the Youth Task Group were very much in favour of awarding the contract to the Eikon Charity.

The Local Committee resolved to:

- (i) Approve the Youth Task Group recommendation to award a funding agreement for a twenty four month period from 01 September 2013 to the following provider: The Eikon Charity for 100% of the contract value (£103,000pa) to prevent young people from becoming NEET in Elmbridge.

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Reason for recommendation: The recommendation will support the council's priority to achieve full participation; that is for 100% of young people aged 16 to 19 to be in education, training or employment.

19/13 UPDATE ON CURRENT LOCAL PREVENTION FRAMEWORK CONTRACT 2012/13 (FOR INFORMATION) [Item 17]

This report was presented by Jeremy Crouch. He explained the report highlighted some of the challenges that the service had encountered, but also the successes. The service now has more information on the young people who are NEET and from March 2012 to March 2013 the number who is NEET has reduced.

Jeremy Crouch updated the Committee that the post of Walton Youth Centre Manager was about to be advertised. Members asked how easy it is currently to recruit for the service. Jeremy explained it is easier than previously with 16-18 applicants per post at the moment.

Mike Abbott, Chief Executive Surrey Youth Focus, explained briefly to the Local Committee how his organisation had been awarded the contract by SCC to administer the Youth Small Grants programme for this financial year. Surrey Youth Focus is promoting the opportunities for the grants and has already received 18 applications. When an application is received from an organisation the relevant divisional Member will be sent the bid to consider.

An amended version of Appendix 1 to this report was tabled at the meeting and is attached to these minutes as Annexe 6.

The Local Committee resolved to:

- (i) note the progress Services for Young People has made during 2012/13 to increase participation in post-16 education, training and employment for young people in Elmbridge, as set out in Appendix 1 to this report.

20/13 REPRESENTATION ON OUTSIDE BODIES & TASK GROUPS (FOR DECISION) [Item 18]

Cheryl Poole, Community Partnership and Committee Officer, introduced the report. The Chairman asked for the Borough Council Cabinet Member for Parking to be included on the Parking Task Group and this proposal was seconded by Councillor John O'Reilly.

The Local Committee resolved to:

- (i) Agree the appointment of Members to outside bodies and task groups as detailed in section 2.1 to 2.4, **but with reference to amendment in recommendation (ii).**
- (ii) Agree that the terms of reference of the Elmbridge Parking Task group as set out in Annex A be approved **with amendment of the membership to include the Elmbridge Cabinet Member for Parking**

- (iii) Agree that the terms of reference of the Elmbridge Youth Task group as set out in Annex B be approved
- (iv) Agree that the community safety budget of £3226, that has been delegated to the Local Committee, be transferred to the Elmbridge Community Safety Partnership and that the Community Partnership Manager authorize its expenditure in accordance with the Local Committee's decision, as detailed in section 2.5.

Reason for decision: The appointment of Members of the Local Committee to outside bodies enables the representation of the Local Committee on these bodies, which affect the lives of the residents of Elmbridge. The task groups meet to review, advise and make informed recommendations to the Local Committee.

21/13 CHAIRMAN'S REPORT [Item 19]

The Local Committee resolved to:

- (i) note the contents of the report.

Annexe 1

Annexe 2

Annexe 3

Annexe 4

Annexe 5

Annexe 6

Meeting ended at: 18:23 pm

Chairman

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